

# OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE**

**USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office**

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**Weather:** Warm and dry weather allowed farmers to get out into the fields this past week. High temperatures ranged from 68 degrees in North Bend, up to 91 degrees in Hermiston. Low temperatures ranged from 25 degrees at the Lorella station, up to 47 degrees in Bandon. Precipitation was scarce throughout the State during the past week. The largest accumulation was reported at the Joseph station with only 0.35 inches, while twenty three out of the forty three stations reported no precipitation at all.

**Field Crops:** Previous cool conditions have slowed grass seed maturity in the Willamette Valley. Yields for most varieties looked average to better than average. Pesticides were applied and spot spraying continued on grass seed. The first reports of the season came in for cutting grass hay. Douglas County top soil was drying out a little fast. Sunny weather in southern Oregon was beneficial to hay and grain growth. Alfalfa irrigation season was fully underway in southeastern Oregon where hay cutting has started. Spring planting continued in Klamath County. Strong winds late in the week hampered ground spraying on cereal crop fields in Wasco County. Wild rye was starting to head out in the wheat fields. Sherman County feral rye and cheat grass have been heading for two weeks. Fall barley was mostly headed, especially in the north end. Winter wheat was in the boot stage, but is still a ways from heading. Warm dry weather is showing an impact on crops, especially where soil is shallow, or fertilizer overlaps. Winter wheat plants in Morrow County are big this year and are requiring more moisture than is available. Although the moisture profile is still adequate in most areas, some wheat is beginning to stress.

**Vegetables:** The warmer, drier weather allowed most growers time to prepare fields for summer vegetables. However, wet soil in Lane County continued to prevent a lot of vegetable planting. Processing snap beans and sweet corn were planted in Washington County. Producers in Marion County reported that snap beans were up and growing. Vegetable starts were in abundance in Farmer's markets, roadside stands, and open nurseries.

**Fruits and Nuts:** North Willamette Valley cherries began to set fruit. Yields are expected to be down due to areas of frost during bloom coupled with heavy rain and hail damage. Marionberries were in full bloom; other caneberries were starting to bloom. Strawberries were setting fruit. There were reports of rust mites in grapes causing "short shoots" which can lead to reduced production. There are many cases of *Pseudomonas syringae* infection in stone fruits. Southern Willamette Valley plums and cherries were done blooming and were experiencing some bacterial blight issues. Peaches were also done blooming and have some moderate pollination problems. Many varieties of apples were in full bloom, but rain may cause some poor pollination. Douglas County tree fruits continued in good condition. Wasco County fruit growers sprayed and mowed grass strips between rows of trees. A second planting of sweet cherries went in and were growing in Sherman County. Southern Oregon fruit was doing better with recent sunny weather. Some local strawberries were ready. Growers caught up on spraying for weeds and mildew. Codling moth was reported out in Medford.

**Nurseries and Greenhouses:** Both nurseries and greenhouses were quite busy with sales, plant up-keep, feeding and watering. Sales were going strong with an abundance of annuals, perennials, and vegetable and herb starts. Nursery shipping season is ongoing as they move bare root trees, containers, and balled and burlapped plants to the East Coast.

**Livestock, Range and Pasture:** Livestock were looking good and some cattle were still being sent to higher pastures in Western Oregon. It was noted that pastures were shaping up due to the warmer weather, and were even looking lush in parts of the Willamette Valley. Some livestock producers were beginning to haul water to range pastures last week. It was reported that the lower range was drying in Harney County, and the hills on the range lands were getting brown rapidly in Wasco County.

**Soil Moisture-Week Ending 05/13/07**

	<b>Very short</b>	<b>Short</b>	<b>Adequate</b>	<b>Surplus</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	3	14	76	7
Subsoil	5	11	78	6

**Crop Condition-Week Ending 05/13/07**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>Very poor</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat	0	1	16	74	9
Spring wheat	0	0	28	69	3
Barley	0	0	11	84	5
Range and pasture	1	4	26	53	16

**Crop Progress-Week Ending 05/13/07**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>This week</b>	<b>Last week</b>	<b>Last year</b>	<b>5 year average</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat headed	11	2	4	14
Barley planted	97	94	93	88
Barley emerged	85	81	69	69
Spring wheat emerged	95	88	78	84
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.6	4.6	7.0	5.7

## WESTERN OREGON

**CLATSOP:** Grass silage harvest continues. Several mornings of frost last week.

**COOS/CURRY:** Temperatures were warmer early in the week and cooler by the end of the week, especially in southern Curry. Precipitation for the week was minimal. Pastures are growing and early high moisture haylage in wraps continues to be harvested this week. Bandon (Coos & Northern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 46.51 degrees, 5.82 degrees above the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 70.10 degrees, 8.07 degrees above the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.01 inches, compared to a 5-year (including drought years 2002-2004) average of 1.22 inches. Precipitation for Current weather year precipitation stands at 53.0 inches, 1.16 inches above the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation through May is 55.97 inches. Brookings (Southern Curry) Low temperature for the period was 41.58 degrees, 2.24 degrees below the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 86.2 degrees, 18.95 degrees above the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.11 inches compared to a 5-year average (including drought years 2002-2004) of 0.59 inches. Current weather year precipitation stands at 74.42 inches, 0.44 inches above the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation through May is 70.81 inches.

**DOUGLAS:** Dry weather continues to make field work possible. Top soil is drying out a little faster than we would like to see. Vegetable seeding is going fast now with warmer and drier weather. Tree fruit crop continues to look nice with no serious problems.

**JACKSON:** Not too bad of a week for doing field crop planting. We had a lot of sun, so it was a good week for hay growth and grain growing. All fruit is doing better with some good sunny weather. Also was a good week to get caught up on spraying, mostly weeds and mildew. Some local fresh strawberries are ready. Lots of field work in preparation for plantings of summer vegetables. Both greenhouses and nurseries are quite busy with sales, plant up-keep, feeding, and watering. Livestock are looking quite good with lots of good lush pastures. Still some cattle being worked and getting ready for higher pastures. This was a good week for outside work. Sunny days for the most part and a lot warmer. Farmer's markets are getting busy also.

**LANE:** Cool conditions have slowed maturity of grass seed varieties. Most grass seed varieties look average to better in

yields. It is important to see adequate moisture, warmer temperatures, and no high temperature heat waves in the next 45 days to ensure good yields. Plums and cherries are done blooming and are experiencing some bacterial blight issues. Peaches are also done blooming and have some mediocre pollination problems. Many varieties of apples are in full bloom, but rain may cause some poor pollination. Codling moth is out in Medford. Greenhouse and cold frame vegetables are going in. Wet soil is still preventing a lot of vegetable and crop planting this spring. Plowing has just started this past week. Carrots, radishes, garlic, early strawberries, leeks, and lettuce are being sold at Farmer's markets. Greenhouse sales are doing well with plenty of annuals, perennials, vegetable and herb starts.

**MARION:** Snap beans are up and growing. Grass seed is growing and looking very good. Marion berries are blooming. Crops continue to look excellent. Grass fields are beginning to head out. Some of the cane berries are in full bloom. Others are starting to bloom. Weather was sunny and warm early and for most of the week. Saturday afternoon and Saturday night was cool with showers. Sunday was quite cool and cloudy, then it cleared into a cold night right around the freezing mark. All days were suitable for fieldwork.

**POLK:** The weather this past week was warm and dry. To date, the amount of moisture this spring is below normal. Cherries have begun to set fruit and yields are expected to be down due to areas of frost at bloom and heavy rain and hail showers in parts of the county.

**WASHINGTON:** Pesticide is being applied and spot spraying continues for grass for seed. Clover is in bloom and all crops are growing in Washington County. There are blooms on most berries, and blackberries and strawberries are setting. Rhubarb is being picked. Sweet corn is being planted and beans are going in. Vegetable and flower starts are abundant in Farmer's markets, roadside stands, and open nurseries. Pasture is shaping up due to the warm weather. High temperature of 84 degrees and a low of 36 degrees.

**YAMHILL:** Good week to be farming. First reports of cutting of grass hay came in this week. Reports of rust mites in grapes causing "short shoots" which can lead to reduced production also came in. There are many cases of *Pseudomonas syringae* infection in stone fruits.

## EASTERN OREGON

**BAKER/UMATILLA:** Scattered thunder showers on Friday with some areas of hail.

**HARNEY:** Alfalfa irrigation season is fully underway. Lower range is drying. Some stock-water shortages are being reported. Thunder storms have been spotty, but are helping where they fall.

**KLAMATH:** Some rain and thunderstorms during the week. Spring planting and irrigation continues.

**LAKE:** Did not receive any precipitation during the week or weekend. Temperatures warmed up during the daytime. Irrigation started in most of the county.

**MALHEUR:** Both high and low temperatures were higher than normal. Hay cutting started. It is getting very dry. Some livestock producers are beginning to haul water to range pastures.

**MORROW:** Winter wheat plants are big this year and are requiring more moisture than is available. Although the moisture profile is still adequate in most areas, some wheat is beginning to stress. Rain helped that situation last week, however, more is needed to have the crop reach its full potential.

**SHERMAN:** Feral rye and cheat grass have been heading for two weeks. Fall barley is mostly headed especially in the North end. Winter wheat is in the boot stage but is still a ways from heading. Warm dry weather is showing an impact on crops especially where shallow soil or fertilizer overlaps. An inch or two of rain over a 48 hour period would be most welcomed. A second planting of cherries is in and growing. Hay supplementing and water hauling is an early burden in some areas. Most growers support the current grain prices, but only wish they had some to sell.

**WALLOWA:** Some more moisture was received this week, but we aren't out of the woods yet. May moisture is crucial to crops and range.

**WASCO:** Monday and Tuesday were hot days, while the strong winds through the rest of week hampered ground spraying on cereal crop fields. The wild rye is starting to head out in the wheat fields. Activity in fruit orchards included spraying, and mowing grass strips between tree rows. The Alfalfa fields are starting to bloom. Livestock on range and pasture grasses are doing quite well in most areas. The hills on range lands are getting brown rapidly.

**Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: May 13, 2007 (as of 11:00 am) <sup>1</sup>**

Station	Air temperature <sup>2</sup>				Growing degree days <sup>3</sup>		Last week precip. <sup>4</sup>			Season cum. precipitation <sup>5</sup>			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Total	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Total inches	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Days <sup>7</sup>	Total inches	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Pct. normal	Days <sup>7</sup>
<b>COASTAL AREAS</b>													
Astoria/Clatsop	39	71	53	+2	23	+9	0.01	-0.70	1	66.75	6.87	111	153
Bandon <sup>8</sup>	47	70	54	+3	29	+15	0.01	-0.66	1	53.77	-0.79	99	141
Crescent City	41	84	55	+3	40	+14	0.03	-0.69	1	56.43	-4.54	93	108
Florence	33	74	50	-3	11	-8	-	-0.91	-	81.04	11.22	116	129
North Bend	43	68	52	-1	17	-4	-	-0.71	-	58.38	-0.39	99	121
Tillamook	33	73	50	+0	19	+6	0.01	-1.04	1	51.12	-28.49	64	143
<b>WILLAMETTE VALLEY</b>													
Aurora <sup>8</sup>	39	83	57	+4	53	+23	0.01	-0.48	1	39.49	2.97	108	130
Corvallis	39	77	55	+2	36	+8	-	-0.47	-	44.91	5.89	115	126
Detroit Lake <sup>8</sup>	40	84	58	+11	61	+52	-	-0.77	-	82.86	21.53	135	145
Eugene	34	79	53	-2	29	-6	-	-0.49	-	37.61	-7.55	83	113
Hillsboro	35	80	56	+2	41	+12	0.01	-0.34	1	33.10	-0.56	98	123
McMinnville	38	81	56	+2	43	+8	-	-0.43	-	34.22	-5.69	86	125
Portland	44	79	58	+3	58	+17	0.13	-0.36	1	32.10	0.15	100	132
Salem	39	79	56	+4	44	+17	0.01	-0.41	1	38.54	3.12	109	114
<b>SW VALLEYS</b>													
Grants Pass	41	89	63	+6	93	+39	-	-0.28	-	28.52	-0.63	98	90
Medford	46	90	64	+8	100	+53	-	-0.22	-	16.78	-0.18	99	87
Roseburg	43	83	59	+4	64	+22	-	-0.35	-	29.71	-0.34	99	102
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>													
Condon	35	86	59	+9	62	+48	0.02	-0.26	1	12.19	1.01	109	88
Echo <sup>8</sup>	43	90	63	+6	92	+38	0.03	-0.11	2	7.87	0.34	105	89
Heppner	40	87	60	+7	75	+43	-	-0.35	-	11.61	0.46	104	95
Hermiston	42	91	63	+6	91	+37	-	-0.14	-	7.26	-0.27	96	79
Madras <sup>8</sup>	32	87	57	+5	52	+25	-	-0.14	-	5.43	-2.72	67	74
Moro	38	84	58	+7	59	+38	-	-0.18	-	10.47	1.19	113	76
Parkdale <sup>8</sup>	34	82	54	+0	37	+2	-	-0.21	-	33.39	4.63	116	95
Pendleton	38	90	61	+6	81	+35	0.01	-0.20	1	9.00	-0.96	90	82
Prairie City <sup>8</sup>	32	87	57	+5	52	+25	-	-0.14	-	5.43	-2.72	67	74
The Dalles	43	87	63	+11	93	+66	-	-0.14	-	12.23	1.53	114	71
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>													
Agency Lake <sup>8</sup>	35	75	57	+10	50	+43	0.08	-0.13	1	14.65	0.97	107	92
Bend	36	82	57	+9	51	+40	0.20	0.06	1	9.03	-0.23	98	65
Burns	31	80	56	+8	48	+34	-	-0.21	-	7.70	0.22	103	75
Christmas Valley <sup>8</sup>	28	80	54	+3	35	+14	0.06	-0.15	2	4.68	-5.01	48	67
Klamath Falls	26	80	56	+5	45	+25	0.07	-0.12	2	9.00	-2.31	80	71
Klamath Falls <sup>8</sup>	27	80	56	+6	49	+29	0.01	-0.18	1	10.06	-0.97	91	89
Lakeview	28	75	54	+5	36	+22	-	-0.29	-	3.15	-9.52	25	44
Lorella <sup>8</sup>	25	79	55	+4	38	+18	-	-0.19	-	8.89	-2.42	79	82
Redmond	26	86	56	+7	46	+32	-	-0.14	-	4.10	-2.29	64	49
Worden <sup>8</sup>	26	79	55	+4	39	+19	-	-0.19	-	7.43	-3.88	66	89
<b>NORTHEAST</b>													
Baker City	33	83	57	+7	53	+37	0.22	-0.06	3	3.96	-3.21	55	72
Joseph	38	77	56	+11	43	+43	0.35	-0.07	3	11.59	-8.33	58	96
La Grande	37	84	59	+7	65	+41	0.32	-0.03	1	6.62	-6.94	49	63
Union	35	85	60	+10	70	+54	0.12	-0.23	3	7.93	-1.75	82	80
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>													
Ontario	46	87	67	+9	123	+63	-	-0.14	-	5.00	-2.85	64	60
Rome	38	85	62	+9	88	+56	-	-0.21	-	2.55	-3.31	44	55

<sup>1</sup> Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2007: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

<sup>2</sup> Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.

<sup>3</sup> Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit.

<sup>4</sup> Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

<sup>5</sup> Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2006.

<sup>6</sup> DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normals period).

<sup>7</sup> Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

<sup>8</sup> Agri-Met weather stations.